

Appln. No. 10/688,620

Amendment dated February 22, 2005

Reply to Office Action mailed September 22, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

Figure 3 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an upper sleeve member of the present invention taken along line 3-3 of Figure 6.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

Figure 4 is a schematic cross-sectional view of a lower sleeve member of the present invention taken along line 4-4 of Figure 6.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

Figure 5 is a schematic top view of a stop ring member of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

Figure 7 is a schematic perspective view of an embodiment of the lower sleeve member of the present invention.

Appln. No. 10/688,620

Amendment dated February 22, 2005

Reply to Office Action mailed September 22, 2004

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

Preferably, the upper sleeve member 36 selectively engages the lower sleeve member 31. Thus, the lower sleeve member 31 is maintained in a static position relative to the upper sleeve member ~~35~~ 36. As the ledge portion 34 of the lower segment engages the bottom of a relatively higher segment, securing the lower sleeve member 31 to the upper sleeve member 36 secures the relatively higher segment in an extended position.